

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A short fiber producing device ~~as set forth in Claim 4,~~ comprising a rotor having a raw material receiving chamber having an outlet disposed in the outer periphery, wherein a centrifugal force concomitant with the rotation of said rotor causes a fluidized body of plastic to be delivered from said outlet to provide short fibers,

wherein a resin reservoir tank is provided inside said outlet and

wherein a heating device is provided adjacent said rotor.

7. (Original) A short fiber producing device as set forth in Claim 6, wherein a plurality of temperature regions are provided radially of said rotor, the temperature in each region being adjustable.

8. (Currently Amended) A short fiber producing device ~~as set forth in Claim 4,~~ comprising a rotor having a raw material receiving chamber having an outlet disposed in the outer periphery, wherein a centrifugal force concomitant with the rotation of said rotor causes a fluidized body of plastic to be delivered from said outlet to provide short fibers,

wherein a resin reservoir tank is provided inside said outlet, and

wherein said rotor is composed of separable upper and lower halves.

9. (Original) A short fiber producing device as set forth in Claim 8, wherein said upper half is centrally provided with a hollow cylindrical portion for feeding raw material.

10. (Original) A short fiber producing device as set forth in Claim 6, wherein said heating device is a high frequency induction heating device.

11. (Original) A short fiber producing device as set forth in Claim 10, further comprising an inductor disposed adjacent the raw material receiving chamber for generating induction heat, wherein the plastic melts and flows under the action of high frequency heating and then is delivered by the centrifugal force of the rotor to provide short fibers.

12. (Original) A short fiber producing device comprising a rotatable raw material receiving chamber with a resin reservoir tank for melting plastic in an inner wall surface thereof, and a high frequency induction heating device for inducing a local heating action in the chamber.

13. (Original) A short fiber producing device as set forth in claim 12, wherein a plastic delivery port in the form of hole or groove is formed in a wall of the raw material receiving chamber and has a raised or recessed portion for suppressing the flow of plastic.

14. (Original) A short fiber producing method comprising the steps of feeding crushed pieces of plastic or pellet-like solid substance directly into the raw material receiving chamber in the interior of a rotor, gelling the plastic in the raw material receiving chamber by high frequency induction heating, and delivering the gelled plastic

by the action of centrifugal force concomitant with the rotation of the rotor so as to provide short fibers.